

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A co-browsing system, comprising:
 - (a) a network;
 - (b) a web service;
 - (c) a first web browser in communication with said web service across said network, said first web browser comprising an event handler operable to transmit a change event from said first web browser to said web service across said network; and
 - (d) a second web browser in communication with said web service across said network, said second web browser comprising a polling service operable to periodically poll said web service across said network for the presence of any said change events originating at said first web browser.
2. The co-browsing system of claim 1, wherein said change events comprise a change event identifier and a change event value.
3. The co-browsing system of claim 2, further comprising a data store in communication with said web service, wherein said data store is operable to store said change events.
4. The co-browsing system of claim 3, further comprising a web server, a first web page hosted at said web server, and a second web page hosted at said web server, wherein said first web page is operable to be downloaded from said web server to said first web browser, said second web page is operable to be

downloaded from said web server to said second web browser, and said first web page and said second web page are substantially identical in appearance.

5. The co-browsing system of claim 4, wherein said first web page comprises at least one readable and writeable control, and said second web browser comprises at least one corresponding read-only control.

6. A method for initiating a co-browsing session, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a data entry web page from a web server to a first web browser;
- (b) receiving an activation signal at the web server from the first web browser;
- (c) providing a contact web page from the web server to the first web browser, wherein the contact web page comprises a session identifier;
- (d) receiving at a second web browser the session identifier;
- (e) transmitting the session identifier to the web server; and
- (f) providing a first web page from the web server to the first web browser, and a second web page from the web server to the second web browser, where the first and second web pages are substantially identical in appearance.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the data entry web page comprises a request assistance link, and the activation signal is associated with the request assistance link.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the contact web page comprises contact information.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the contact information comprises a telephone number.
10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of providing a session identifier entry web page from the web server to the second web browser.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein the first web page is writeable, and the second web page is read-only.
12. A co-browsing method, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) receiving at a writeable web page at a first web browser a change event;
 - (b) transmitting the change event from the first web browser across a network to a web service;
 - (c) initiating a polling request the web service for a change event from a second web browser across the network;
 - (d) transmitting the change event from the web service to the second web browser in response to the polling request; and
 - (e) updating a read-only web page at the second web browser based on the change event.
13. The co-browsing method of claim 12, wherein said change event comprises a change event identifier and a change event value.
14. The co-browsing method of claim 13, further comprising the step of storing said change event in a data store in communication with the web service.

15. A co-browsing system, comprising:
- (a) a network;
 - (b) a server system communicatively connected to said network, said server system comprising a web server and a web service;
 - (c) a first client communicatively connected to said network, said first client comprising a first web browser, and said first web browser comprising an event handler operable to transmit a change event from said first web browser to said web service across said network; and
 - (d) a second client communicatively connected to said network, said second client comprising a second web browser, and said second web browser comprising a polling service operable to periodically poll said web service across said network for the presence of any said change events originating at said first client.
16. The co-browsing system of claim 15, wherein said change events comprise a change event identifier and a change event value.
17. The co-browsing system of claim 16, further comprising a data store in communication with said server system, wherein said data store is operable to store said change events.
18. The co-browsing system of claim 17, further comprising a first web page hosted at said web server, and a second web page hosted at said web server, wherein said first web page is operable to be downloaded from said web server to said first web browser, said second web page is operable to be downloaded

from said web server to said second web browser, and said first web page and said second web page are substantially identical in appearance.

19. The co-browsing system of claim 18, wherein said first web page comprises at least one readable and writeable control, and said second web browser comprises at least one corresponding read-only control.